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Title: Need to prevent commercialisation of education in the country.

SHRI M.I. SHANAVAS (WAYANAD): Madam, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to raise a very important matter before this august Assembly.

The Constitution 86th amendment of 2002 had made elementary education a fundamental right under article 21A of the Constitution of India. The right of children to free education was a great landmark in the history of India. About Rs. 2.5 lakh crore are being spent for free education.

When this Act was passed, I was sitting in the Treasury Benches. At that time, everybody was so happy that 25 per cent of poor students will get admission. Madam, I would like to know from the Government whether this is being implemented. Are these 25 per cent poor students living in the vicinity of schools getting admission?

Furthermore, the capitation fee for LKG in my State is Rs.3 lakh and for B.Com., it is Rs.5 lakh. So, this Government should take strong steps to see that capitation fee is done away forthwith and the Right to Education Act is implemented in its spirit.